Fall 2012

# **USTICE Tonnections**

A Newsletter of the Waukesha County CJCC

# Message from the CJCC Chairman



Presiding Judge Lloyd V. Carter

elcome to the Fall 2012 edition of the CJCC newsletter, Justice Connections! In this issue you will find articles highlighting the

great work of two CJCC contracted service providers, Waukesha Area Technical College (WCTC) and Wisconsin Community Services (WCS), as well as an article detailing a new state grant awarded to the CJCC by the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) to incorporate medication-assisted treatment (MAT) into the Waukesha County Drug Court program.

Also included in this newsletter is an article about recent CJCC membership changes, which includes my appointment by Chief

Judge Randy Koschnick as the Presiding Judge for Waukesha County and Deputy Chief Judge for the Third Judicial District.

As Presiding Judge, I assumed the role of Chairman of the CJCC effective August 1, 2012. As a former Assistant District Attorney for more than 20 years, many of which were served as a specialized Drug Prosecutor, I have seen firsthand the need for collaboration in the criminal justice system to effectively address the underlying causes of criminality in order to have a positive impact on recidivism. The CJCC provides us that opportunity and I look forward to serving as its Chairman.



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#### **CJCC MISSION**

The Waukesha County **Criminal Justice** Collaborating Council (CJCC) was established in 2002. The mission of the CJCC is to enhance public safety and the effective and efficient administration of the criminal justice system in Waukesha County through community collaboration by ensuring offender accountability and providing rehabilitative services, while supporting the rights and needs of victims.

Recent changes in the positions of chief/presiding judge and county board ushered chair membership changes for the CJCC. Newly appointed Presiding Judge Lloyd Carter will take the helm and chair the CJCC and ClCC Executive committee. Judge Carter, a former assistant district attorney with more than 20 experience of prosecuting criminals, was elected to serve as a Circuit Court Judge in 2011 and appointed Waukesha County's Presiding Judge in 2012.

## "I am excited about my new role as chairman of the CJCC," said Judge Lloyd

**CJCC Membership Changes** 

Carter. "The CJCC provides a unique setting where all three branches of government and key policy makers come together to make decisions critical to public safety and the criminal justice system. I look forward to leading the Council through whatever challenges that may lie ahead."

Another new face to join the council is County Board Chairman Paul Decker, a county board supervisor since 2009, was elected

county board chair in April 2012. County Board Decker brings Chairman with him knowledge from previously serving on the county's health and human services board and judiciary and law enforcement committee.

"The criminal justice system is facing many budgetary challenges," said Chairman Decker. "The CJCC plays a crucial role in proactively developing and monitoring programs that can lead to a more efficient and cost effective criminal justice system."

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# Waukesha County Jail Education Program and Bright Futures

The majority of incarcerated inmates lack basic education and employment skills. Since eventually all inmates will be released, jail-based programs can help exoffenders more successfully reintegrate into society by increasing their cognitive skills. Literacy and education programs are crucial if incarcerated men and women are to be helped toward a productive life, instead of a return trip to prison.

The Adult Basic Education (ABE) Program in the Waukesha County Jail, provided through a collaboration of CJCC and Waukesha County Technical College (WCTC), provides basic and secondary education to incarcerated individuals who are motivated to further their learning in a calm, positive setting.

The program is open to any inmate requesting to attend unless there are



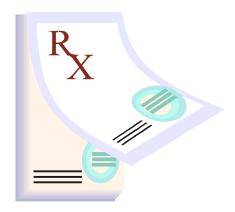
disciplinary or safety and security issues. Each participant sets individualized education employment goals at registration and regularly evaluates progress with the help of an instructor. The most common goals include upgrading academic skills, obtaining high school equivalency, preparing for college and obtaining employment. Length of participation in the ABE Program is based on length of stay. Inmates can attend the program as long as they exhibit appropriate behavior and are

making progress toward identified goals.

Through the ABE Program, students can complete high school credentials, increase basic academic skills and employability, obtain computer skills and prepare for vocational, technical and college programs. The program also offers other self-improvement support services such as English as a Second Language, parenting classes and consumer education to improve academic skills and employability.

WCTC teaching staff meets with incarcerated individuals in a small classroom setting in the jail, twice a day, four days per week. Participant successes are celebrated at annual graduation ceremonies complete with caps, gowns, keynote and participant addresses and certificates. WCTC instructors remain an approachable resource for inmates/students post-release.

## **CJCC Receives State Grant to Enhance Drug Court Program**



The CJCC was recently awarded a grant from the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) to incorporate medication-assisted treatment (MAT) into the County's Drug Treatment Court program. The one year grant from September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013, totalling \$49,740, will make available Naltrexone medication, an opioid receptor blocker that reduces opiate cravings and prevents relapse, for approximately 35 drug court participants (after thorough assessment by treatment and medical staff). The project's goals are to reduce relapses among drug court participants as well as increase the likelihood of their long term sobriety, thereby reducing recidivism and enhancing public safety.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), "Medication-assisted treatment is the use of pharmacological medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a 'whole patient' approach to the treatment of substance use disorders. Research indicates that a combination of medication and behavioral therapies can successfully treat substance use disorders, and for some people struggling with addiction, MAT can help sustain recovery."

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# **CJCC Program Provider Featured in National Report**

CJCC service provider Wisconsin Community Services (WCS) was featured in a recently released National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) report titled *Transdermal Alcohol Monitoring*: Case Studies. The report provides an in-depth look at six jurisdictions across the country using SCRAM (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring), a transdermal alcohol monitoring system, as a component of supervision of repeat drunk drivers. WCS has been successfully using SCRAM with four CJCC programs including Alcohol Treatment Court, Pretrial



Intoxicated Driver Intervention, Day Report Center and Pretrial Supervision. To date, WCS has used SCRAM to monitor 7,141 participants statewide.

The study was designed to provide best practice case studies for other courts and agencies looking to implement transdermal alcohol monitoring programs. According to the report the number of programs using these types of monitoring programs is increasing and noted that the technology is a reliable way to monitor alcohol use by offenders and superior to previous testing methods. Researchers selected varying sized jurisdictions and analyzed implementation of transdermal testing that is used with other program elements such as treatment, sanctions, program compliance and ignition interlocks.

WCS is engaged in another NHTSA study of SCRAM use, which will compare recidivism data for offenders sentenced to wear the devices in South Dakota, Nebraska and Wisconsin.

### Reflections on Six Years as CJCC Chairman

At a recent CJCC meeting, County **Executive Dan Vrakas proclaimed** that the people who began Waukesha County's CJCC had vision; Judge Mac Davis helped Waukesha County take that vision to the next level. Judge Davis' six year maximum term as Chief Judge expired on July 31, 2012. During Judge Davis' tenure as CJCC chairman (August 1, 2006 - July 31, 2012), the number of programs under the CJCC's umbrella grew from six to 11 causing revenues and expenditures to increase more than two fold. Most notable, support for the CJCC and its programs grew in tandem with tax levy support, which increased from \$440,913 to \$1,030,833 under Davis' leadership.

Davis said, "The best and most important part of my six years as Chief Judge was being chairman of the CJCC. The biggest changes during my tenure as chair were establishment of the Day Report Center (2006), expansion of the Alcohol Treatment Court (2010) and SCRAM bracelet technology to monitor defendants for alcohol abuse, addition of the Drug Treatment Court (2012) and the hiring of a top-flight, full time CJCC Coordinator, Rebecca Luczaj (2008)." Davis acknowledges CJCC's team efforts made progress and success possible, including the 'can-do' attitude of county leaders like HHS Director Peter Schuler, former County Board Chairman Jim Dwyer and County Executive Dan Vrakas, as well as the unmatched quality and affordable pricing of CJCC service providers.

Davis organized several multidisciplinary workgroups to develop, evaluate and recommend justice system solutions and action plans that could be implemented within budget to address alcohol and substance abuse issues. Davis commented that "CJCC programming benefits our



Judge J. Mac Davis

community by the provision of increased public protection and enhanced rehabilitation. All of the people in CJCC programming are in or about to be in the community."

Before his involvement with the CJCC, Davis' primary experience with offender monitoring was with the State Department of Corrections. As a member of the CJCC, he learned so much more could be done. Davis said, "CJCC programs hinge on cooperation with other organizations such as Probation and Parole. Without collaboration, the programs will fail."

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# Client Success Story: Jail Adult Basic Education Program

hile incarcerated in the Waukesha County Jail, Michael enrolled in the CJCC Jail Adult Basic Education (ABE)/General Education Diploma (GED)

Program. After being released from jail, Michael went on to further his education by enrolling in the refrigeration, air conditioning and heating service technician program at WCTC.

Michael said the CJCC educational programs in the jail are "a stepping stone that made me realize what I could really do and helped me get myself together." When Michael finishes his training, he plans to find employment in the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) trade and eventually start his own HVAC business.

Michael's is one of many success stories from the CJCC's Jail ABE/GED Program. Each year, the program assists approximately 185 inmates by helping them work toward employment and educational goals. Last year, 22 students earned GEDs or High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) high credentials and 27 others progressed toward that goal. Since 2010, 17 students who began in this program achieved college degrees. On average, 86% of enrollees improve academic literacy skills through participation. Since its inception 22 years ago, the program has provided instruction to thousands of incarcerated students.

WCTC was recently awarded a Federal Education and Family Literacy Act for Institutional Individuals Grant for the program for the 2012-2013 federal fiscal year.

# Criminal Justice Collaborating Council

#### **CJCC Membership**

Presiding Judge
Waukesha County Executive
Waukesha County Board Chair
Waukesha County District Attorney
Waukesha County Sheriff
Waukesha County Clerk of Circuit Court
City of Waukesha Mayor
First Assistant State Public Defender
DOC - Division of Community Corrections
Health & Human Services Director
Police Chiefs' Association Member
UW-Extension Director
Citizen Member



From left to right: UW Cooperative Extension Co-Director Melinda Stuart, HHS Director Peter Schuler, City of Waukesha Mayor Jeff Scrima, DOC Community Corrections Supervisor Karl Held, District Attorney Brad Schimel, Citizen Member Joanne Huelsman, First Assistant State Public Defender Sam Benedict, County Executive Dan Vrakas, County Board Chairman Paul Decker, Presiding Judge Lloyd Carter and Sheriff Dan Trawicki. Not pictured: Clerk of Courts Kathleen Madden and City of Waukesha Police Chief Russell Jack.

#### **CJCC Contact Information:**

Rebecca Luczaj CJCC Coordinator 515 W. Moreland Boulevard, Suite C170 Waukesha, WI 53188 262-548-7925 rluczaj@waukeshacounty.gov

